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PRESS RELEASE

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Sun Lakes Volunteer Fire Corps Program Updates

The Arizona Fire & Medical Authority (AFMA) is proud to be the emergency services provider in the Sun Lakes community. Rumors have been circulating that the current Fire Corps Program, previously the Community Assistance Program (CAP), is going away. Fortunately, this rumor is not accurate. Since 2017, AFMA remains committed to preserving and augmenting this vital community-based volunteer program.

AFMA's Fire Corps Program was designed to engage community volunteer efforts to handle non-emergency activities, thereby enabling Authority career personnel to focus more fully on acute emergency tasks. Today, the Authority has over 50 Fire Corps volunteers, spread throughout its operational areas, that focus on many non-emergency functions including: public education and information, commercial occupancy fire inspections, residential emergency lock box installation and maintenance, home safety surveys, community event support and administrative office assistance.

"Fire Corps has been "off duty" for over a year due to Covid. At no time, however, has there been a discussion of terminating the cherished support of our community volunteers. I regret the confusion that seems to be due to false claims and allegations that

our fire department non-emergency volunteers will not continue to be active in Sun Lakes,” said AFMA Board Member and Sun Lakes resident John Crawford.

“When we can return to a more normal operation, there will be further enhancements to our volunteer programs, but all these alterations will simply continue to target a safer and improved system,” added Director Crawford.

“As a board member, I will continue to support the notion of maintaining our current gold standard volunteer activities, as a component of the nationally recognized and highly acclaimed Fire Corps program. This will allow us to benefit from all that Fire Corps has done over the years along with many more endeavors that will be of tremendous value to our community in the future,” he said.

If you have any questions about the Fire Corps Program or have an interest in becoming a Fire Corps volunteer, please visit AFMA’s website at www.afma.az.gov or contact Fire Corps Program Manager John Teixeira at 623-544-5400 or jteixeira@afma.az.gov.

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